



Town of Garrett Park
PO Box 84
4600 Waverly Avenue
Garrett Park, MD 20896

Regular Meeting of Town Council
Public Teleconference

Town Council Meeting: October 18, 2021

MINUTES

Call to Order (7:32 PM) – Serving as Acting Mayor, Councilmember Phil Schulp called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM. Present on the call were Councilmembers Gerilee Bennett, Dona Dobosz, Mario Grande, and Stephen Paczkowski. Also on the call were Town Manager Andrea Fox, Town Assistant Elizabeth Henley, and approximately 26 attendees.

Approval of Agenda (7:33 PM) – The item “Stormwater Ownership and Maintenance Resolution” was removed and will be discussed during the Stormwater item under Town Updates. The agenda was unanimously approved as amended.

Approval of Minutes (7:35 PM) – The September 13, 2021 Town Council Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

Presentation by Residents (7:36 PM) – Residents who wish to provide comment on the road barriers next to the Black Market outdoor dining were asked to do so when this item is discussed under Action items. A resident from Rokeby Avenue requested information about the stormwater project at the end of Rokeby Avenue.

Action (7:42 PM)

- *Non-Routine Request for Removal of a Tree (4427 Strathmore Avenue)* – Councilmember Bennett. The property owners requested to remove a Town tulip poplar tree to facilitate better access to the property. The Arboretum consultant and Arboretum Committee recommend approval of the removal with conditions (as stated in a letter) and in coordination with the Town Office. Councilmember Paczkowski moved to approve the removal with the conditions, it was seconded by Councilmember Grande, and unanimously approved.
- *Town Hall Fence Replacement Vendor Approval* – Town Manager Fox. Town Manager Fox requested approval to purchase a replacement fence for Town Hall. Once the old fence is removed, certain diseased trees will be removed, and the new fence will be installed. The County approved the Historic Area Work Permit, and this was budgeted for in FY22. Councilmember Grande moved to approve the purchase of the replacement fence, it was seconded by Councilmember Paczkowski, and unanimously approved.
- *Black Market Outdoor Dining Road Barriers* – Town Manager Fox. The history and timeline of the topic was reviewed. Councilmembers, residents, and Black Market staff provided comment. A Task Force was proposed to further research the issue. Black Market staff and residents who live adjacent to the outdoor dining area would be among the invited Task Force members. Councilmember Schulp moved to replace the existing rental barriers with the new white rental barriers until January 1, 2022, to pause outdoor dining at that time, and to hear a report from the Task Force at or before the January Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Grande and unanimously approved.

Town Updates (9:02 PM)

- *Arboretum Committee – Councilmember Bennett.* The fall tree walk with Town Arboretum Consultant Phil Normandy will be held Sunday October 24th at 1:00 PM. Fall planting begins soon and will include a memorial plaque for Michael Spekter. The project with the University of Maryland students is underway; they are providing strategic support on the Arboretum to the Town.
- *American Rescue Plan – Councilmember Dobosz.* The first report is now due April 30, 2022, rather than October 31, 2021. Councilmember Dobosz is developing an invitation for residents to participate on a committee to assess the usage of ARPA funds. There was a question about if the meetings would be open to the public; Town Manager Fox will research this topic and report back. A contract ARPA Program Manager position that is shared across 4-6 jurisdictions is under development.
- *Waverly and Oxford Sidewalks – Councilmember Schulp.* The Arboretum Committee emailed comments on the sidewalks. The sketches are on the Town website and further comments may be emailed to mayorandcouncil@garrettparkmd.gov and managerandrea@garrettparkmd.gov. The posted sketch is an early drawing and will be changed before the plans become final. Samples of FlexiPave are in the Post Office. This item will be discussed at the November Council meeting.
- *Stormwater – Councilmember Schulp.* In 1968, stormwater infrastructure became the responsibility of the County, and the County passed a levy to tax residents. Gaithersburg, Takoma Park, and Rockville are exempt from the tax. The County should be maintaining the system and making improvements in Garrett Park. For greater expediency, the Town may want to negotiate with the County to pay for certain projects using Town funds, but the County would own and maintain the project. The development of a Town-wide stormwater management plan was suggested. For the Rokeby project, the survey is done, the realignment is underway, and the next phase is the installation of a pipe or bridge. Councilmember Schulp and Town Manager Fox will discuss stormwater infrastructure ownership and maintenance with the County and in parallel will discuss the next phase of the Rokeby project.
- *Archives – Councilmember Grande.* Contract Archivist Claire McDonald has responded to 41 research requests this year from residents, staff, and outside researchers. The display case in the Post Office lobby is currently showcasing the Garrett Park Swimming Pool. If you have items of interest relevant to the Town Archive, email Archivist McDonald at archives@garrettparkmd.gov
- *Strathmore Redevelopment at St. Angela Hall – Councilmember Bennett.* A County hearing will be held November 29, 2021, and additional information is on the [County website](#). This past summer, the Town submitted a letter to the developer and SHA. Any resident can also make a comment directly to the County.

Town Managers Financial Report & Town Manager's Report (9:42 PM) – Town Manager Fox summarized the September Financial Report and Town Manager Report. Residents were reminded to please sign up for the GPML and Town Forum list serves and to receive website notifications – this can be done by emailing adminelizabeth@garrettparkmd.gov

Councilmember Phil Schulp adjourned the meeting at 9:47 PM.

Signed,



Andrea Fox, Clerk-Treasurer

